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01272.020605.

PATENT APPLICATION



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

HIROMITSU NISHIKAWA, et al.

Application No.: 10/628,406

Filed: July 29, 2003

For: IMAGE PROCESSING METHOD
AND IMAGE PROCESSING
APPARATUS

Group Art Unit: 2853

August 16, 2004

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed below and on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. A copy of each of documents (11) and (12) is also enclosed.

- (1) U.S. Patent No. 5,121,196
- (2) U.S. Patent No. 5,508,827
- (3) U.S. Patent No. 6,378,033
- (4) U.S. Publication No. 2002-0021458
- (5) U.S. Publication No. 2003-0076516
- (6) U.S. Publication No. 2003-0090713
- (7) U.S. Publication No. 2003-0202197
- (8) U.S. Publication No. 2003-0202213
- (9) U.S. Publication No. 2003-0234946
- (10) U.S. Publication No. 2004-0070777
- (11) Japan 2-136848
- (12) Japan 6-242523

Documents (3) through (10) have a common inventor with, and are commonly assigned with, the subject application.

Documents (11) and (12) were cited in the specification at page 2 and are believed to be pertinent for the reasons noted in the specification.

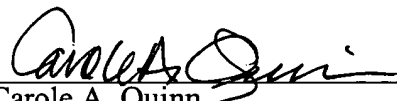
English-language abstracts are enclosed for documents (11) and (12). In this regard, documents (1) and (2) are believed to be English-language equivalents of documents (11) and (12), respectively.

Inasmuch as this application has not yet received a first Office Action on the merits, it is believed that this Information Disclosure Statement is timely. See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3).

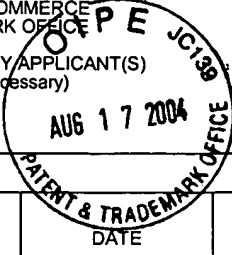
Accordingly, the Examiner is urged to study this information in its entirety and to form an independent determination of the materiality of the information to the claimed invention. Additionally, the Examiner is requested to indicate that this information has been considered by initialing the appropriate portion of Form PTO-1449.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office by telephone at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,


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*FORM PTO 1449 (modified) U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary)			ATTY DOCKET NO. 01272.020605.		APPLICATION NO. 10/628,406	
			APPLICANT HIROMITSU NISHIKAWA, et al.			
			FILING DATE July 29, 2003		GROUP 2853	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
*EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	5,121,196	06/09/92	Pochieh Hung	358	75	
	5,508,827	04/16/96	Hung Po-Chieh	358	518	
	6,378,033	04/23/02	Hiroshi Nishikawa	711	103	
	2002-0021458	02/21/02	Kazuhiro Saito, et al.	358	515	
	2003-0076516	04/24/03	Kazuhiro Saito	358	1.9	
	2003-0090713	05/15/03	Kazuyuki Saito	358	1.15	
	2003-0202197	10/30/03	Kazuhiro Saito, et al.	358	1.9	
	2003-0202213	10/30/03	Kazuyuki Saito	358	1.18	
	2003-0234946	12/25/03	Kazuhiro Saito	358	1.9	
	2004-0070777	04/15/04	Hiromitsu Nishikawa, et al.	358	1.9	
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT
	2-136848	5/25/90	Japan			Abstract
	6-242523	09/02/94	Japan			Abstract
OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)						
EXAMINER			DATE CONSIDERED			

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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